

Message Text

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION - US BEEF QUOTAS

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD AND THE MELBOURNE AGE BOTH CARRIED ARTICLES ON A MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT CARTER AND AMERICAN CATTLEMEN VISITING THE WHITE HOUSE.

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD (JULY 27, 1978 - PAGE 8) REPORTED THAT THE PRESIDENT "PROMISED HE WOULD NOT INCREASE BEEF IMPORTS AGAIN THIS YEAR." THE ARTICLE FILED BY MIKE STEKETEE NOTED THAT BECAUSE 51 PER CENT OF U.S. BEEF IMPORTS COME FROM AUSTRALIA THE ISSUE IS A CRITICAL ONE FOR AUSTRALIAN CATTLE PRODUCERS.

THE ARTICLE ALSO QUOTED MR. RICHARD MCDUGAL OF THE NATIONAL CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION WHO CLAIMED THT PRESIDENT CARTER HAD SAID THAT THERE COULD BE INCREASES IN IMPORTS NEXT YEAR IF RETAIL BEEF PRICES WERE EXCESSIVE. MCDUGAL ALSO QUOTED THE PRESIDENT AS SAYING THAT PRICE CONTROLS ON BEEF WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

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PAGE 02 CANBER 05965 281038Z

THE MELBOURNE DAILY THE AGE (P17 - JULY 27, 1978) ALSO NOTED THE MEETING. THAT PAPER TOOK A DIFFERENT APPROACH, EMPHASISING THAT PRESIDENT CARTER "MIGHT ORDER ANOTHER INCREASE IN BEEF IMPORT QUOTAS." THE AGE ALSO REPORTED THAT THE PRESIDENT INDICATED THAT HE WOULD NOT SUSPEND QUOTAS OR FREEZE BEEF PRICES UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

ADVISE IF PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS ACCURATELY REPRESENTED, ANY
ELABORATION.
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Message Attributes

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